

See Office Action at pages 2-5, Item Nos. 1-2. Accordingly, claims 1-27, 30, and 32-34 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Applicants note that a previous request to cancel claims 3-17 was made in the August 20, 1999 transmittal letter accompanying the filing of this divisional application. Claims 28, 29, and 31 are pending.

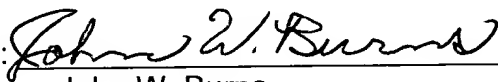
Applicants respectfully assert that the claims 28, 29, and 31 are in condition for allowance and respectfully request that the Examiner issue a Notice of Allowance for these claims. Should the Examiner believe that a further action is necessary to put the claims in condition for allowance, Applicants request that the Examiner call the undersigned at 650-849-6656 to set up an interview.

Please grant any extensions of time needed to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our Deposit Account No. 06-916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: March 12, 2001

By: 

John W. Burns
Reg. No. 43,520